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Obama Energy Official Meets with Saudi Ministers to Discuss Long-Term U.S. Interests and Commitments in the Region

U.S. Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz and his accompanying delegation met with high-level Saudi officials on Sunday. He discussed long-term U.S. energy interests in a series of meetings with the Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Ali bin Ibrahim Al-Naimi and Assistant Minister of Petroleum HRH Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman. Secretary Moniz and his delegation discussed long-standing key global financial issues, including energy efficiency and energy markets broadly, with Finance Minister Dr. Ibrahim Abdulaziz Al-Assaf. Secretary Moniz also met with the President of KACARE Dr. Hashim A. Yamani and KACST President Dr. Mohammed ibn Ibrahim Al-Suwaiyel to discuss science and technology developments, including the many areas where the U.S. and Saudi Arabia can collaborate including energy efficiency, nuclear and renewable energy technologies, and the energy-water nexus.

Dr. Moniz, who spent significant time working in Saudi Arabia before becoming Secretary, assured his Saudi counterparts of the United States' long-standing and enduring interests in maintaining strong ties with Saudi Arabia and the Gulf region. "The United States and Saudi Arabia are strong partners in energy cooperation. I see our relationship only getting stronger in the years ahead, not only on conventional market issues, but also on energy efficiency, nuclear and renewable energy, and science and technology research, where Saudi Arabia has made great strides in recent years," Secretary Moniz said.